

RESPONSE

This is a response to the Office Action dated December 29, 2005. Claims 43-64 are pending in the application. Applicant appreciates the Examiner's allowance of claims 43-59. In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 60-63 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by "Global Positioning System applications at the Bonneville Power Administration" ("Street"). Claim 64 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Street in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,809,045 ("Adamiak"). With this response, applicants have amended claim 60 and cancelled claim 64. Applicant believes claims 60-63 are now in condition for allowance. No new matter has been added.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Independent claim 60 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Street. With this response, claim 60 has been amended for clarity and not for reasons relating to patentability. Applicant submits that Street does not anticipate amended claim 60 for the reason that Street does not disclose all of the elements of each of these claims.

Street discloses the use of "the Global Positioning System (GPS) to enhance power system performance and reliability." Street, p. 244, Summary. "The system [in Street] consists of remotes, synchronized by GPS, installed at cardinal power system nodes and a central master which polls the remotes for fault transient time-of-arrival data." Street, p. 244, section 1. Introduction.

Street fails to disclose a timing clock signal that is altered as in claim 60. In claim 60, "at least one timing clock signal [is received] over a network [and is altered] based on at least one of said at least one [generated] time synchronization signal." The GPS receiver in Street "provides precise synchronization with UTC time allowing accurate phase angle determination." Street, p. 247, Section 5.1. BPA's experience to date. However, there is no timing clock signal received over a network. It is not disclosed in Street how UTC time is derived. It is possible that the timing signal from the GPS receiver is used by itself to calculate the UTC time without altering a timing clock signal. There is no disclosure of a

timing clock signal received over a network that is altered. All Street discloses is “precise synchronization with *UTC time*.” *Id.* (emphasis added). UTC time is NOT a timing clock signal, rather it is a timing *standard* that is defined as “[u]niversal time, taking into account the addition or omission of leap seconds by atomic clocks each year to compensate for changes in the rotation of the earth.” *The American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language*, Fourth Edition Copyright © 2000 by Houghton Mifflin Company.

Synchronization to the standard time set by UTC time does NOT mean there was a timing clock signal that was altered for synchronization. All that is disclosed in Street is synchronization with the “common timing standard,” not a synchronization with a timing clock signal. *See Street*, p. 245, Section 4.1. Traveling Wave Fault Locator Principles (“A Fault Locator remote is actually a fancy electronic stopwatch synchronized to the *common timing standard* of UTC from GPS...” (emphasis added)). Applicant does not dispute that synchronization is disclosed in Street; however, the synchronization disclosed is with a “common timing standard,” rather than with a timing clock signal received over a network that is altered. Synchronization to the common timing standard of UTC does not require an existing timing clock signal received from a network that is altered as in claim 60.


For at least these reasons, Street does not anticipate amended independent claim 60. Dependent claims 61-63 were also rejected as being anticipated by Street. Dependent claims 61-63 should be allowed for the reasons set out above for the amended independent claim 60. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the Examiner withdraw this rejection of claim 60.

CONCLUSION

Each of the rejections from the Office Action dated December 29, 2005 has been addressed and no new matter has been added. Applicants submit that pending claims 60-63 are in condition for allowance and notice to this effect is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned if it would expedite the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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